Boulevard Planning Group Meeting Minutes/Summary May 1, 2008



San Diego County
DEPT. OF PLANNING & LAND USE

Meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. Members present: Marilyn Polen, Pat Stuart, Jeff McKernan, Donna Tisdale, Darlene Koczka, and Chris Noland. Members absent: Bill Parsons (unexcused). April 3, 2008 minutes were approved. M/S: McKernan/Stuart. 5-0-1. Marilyn abstained due to absence. Correspondence was reviewed.

NEW BUSINESS:

A: NEW SUNRISE POWERLINK HEARINGS SET FOR MAY 12TH: Micah Mitrosky, full time community organizer for the Sierra Club, spoke at the meeting stressing the importance of the two new public hearings scheduled for May 12th in Borrego Springs, the Borrego Springs Resort, De Anza Room, 1112 Tilting T Drive, from 1-5p.m. and 6:30-9:30p.m. There will be a quorum of CPUC in attendance along with Administrative Law Judge Steven A. Weissman. Mitrosky stated that a great impact was made at previous meetings with the public expressing a desire for more in-basin energy generation and more 21st century methods to be considered as an alternative. Another community mobilization meeting is being held May 8th, 7:00p.m. at the Lakeside Community Center, 9841 Vine St. The speaker will be Martha Sullivan, Former CPUC staff person, and opposition advocate of the Powerlink project. Additionally, Cal Trans has reportedly stated that they will not allow power poles in the center of I-8, which may move the BCD South routing further to the west. It was reported that some ranchers are just requesting that the project be re-routed around their own property. The Chair stated that a united front should be presented.

B: COUNTY REQUEST TO REMOVE DEAD OAK ON OLD HWY 80: The county Department of Public Works had asked the BPG for their opinion and to vote on the removal of a dead oak at 36536 Old Hwy 80. The Group reviewed the request and photo, voting to approve the tree removal. M/S: Polen/Noland. 6-0-0.

OLD BUSINESS AND UPDATES:

A: TRAIL SYSTEM POTENTIAL FOR BOULEVARD: The ad-hoc trails committee members; Rett, Holly, and Monica were present with their updated findings. Rett gave a Power Point presentation on some of the explored routes and staging areas. Some trails still need to be identified as a public or private route, Border Patrol traffic use, and will be compared to County mapping areas and BP sectors. They are planning to contact the Campo Band. More volunteers are still welcome and all suggestions can still be emailed to JUSTRETT@yahoo.com, subject line must state "Trails".

B: SEMPRA'S BAJA WIND APPLICATION FOR PRESIDENTIAL PERMIT FOR CROSS-BORDER 500KV LINE AT JACUMBA (DOE docket no. PP-334): The BPG submitted comments prior to the March 24th deadline. Sempra has requested to construct a single circuit 500kV transmission line that crosses the US-Mexico international border near Jacumba. The line would connect up to 1,250 MW of wind

energy to be produced in LaRumarosa Baja, CA, by a Sempra subsidiary. All energy

would be exported from Mexico to the U.S. An 80-acre loop substation would be built on private land on the U.S. side connecting to the existing Southwest Powerlink. A Sempra representative was unable to confirm a date that a meeting would be held at the Jacumba Community Center. Sempra is proposing the Baja side of this project and SDG&E is proposing the substation on the U.S. side.

- C: GOLDEN ACORN CASINO/HOTEL PROPOSED EXPANSION: No new information is available. The project is currently on hold. The County and the Campo tribal representatives have held negotiation meetings.
- **<u>D: CAMPO LANDFILL:</u>** The Supplemental EIS is due to be released for public review sometime this summer .New tribal leaders were elected in April and any positions or opinions of these new members are still unknown. It has been reported that the tribal elections have been challenged in some way, and the previous leadership is still in office until the conflict is resolved or a new election is held.
- **E: GENERAL PLAN UPDATE:** The draft Land Use Element is out for public review. Community Character plans will be updated.
- F: MULTIPLE SPECIES CONSERVATION PLAN (MSCP) FOR EAST COUNTY: The next Steering meeting is planned for May 28th.
- G: BLM'S PROPOSED RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR EASTERN SAN DIEGO COUNTY: The BLM is awaiting the Record of Decision from the Dept. of Interior.
- **<u>H: WIND ENERGY PROPOSAL FOR MCCAIN VALLEY:</u>** No new updates. PPM energy is still working on the proposed project.
- I: WEST-WIDE ENERGY CORRIDOR PROGRAMMATIC EIS: No new updates. The Chair attended the Jacumba Planning Group meeting and reported that the SunCal representative announced they have decided to hold back 6 months or so with their development plans for Ketchum Ranch to see what happens with this energy corridor, the Sunrise Powerlink, and the Baja Wind project, all of which will impact their property.
- J: LANSING COMPANIES: Greg Lansing reportedly has control over 7,800 Boulevard acres with several thousand more under consideration. Kevin Smith is reportedly interested in gaining a 51% controlling interest in the land and potential development. Mr. Lansing and Mr. Smith have declined to confirm or deny their association, or interest in hosting wind turbine facilities, stating that it is private business.
- <u>PUBLIC COMMENT/NON-AGENDA ITEMS</u>: Nazar Najor from Live Oak Springs, is due back in court for his sentencing on May 16th regarding his water citations. The Boulevard Volunteer Fire Department pancake breakfast is May 5th from 8-11:00a.m. Condolences were expressed for the family of Bob Mitchell, of Jacumba, who just passed away. Rich Volker, Attorney at Law, consultant for Invenergy, objected to the way the

April minutes were written, feeling he was misrepresented and accounts were slanted against him. The Chair noted that the minutes had already been approved with no objections or corrections. After a brief discussion regarding the language used, the Chair stated that Volker's objection was noted and she would review the tape of the meeting to confirm the minute's accuracy.

Meeting adjourned at 7:58p.m.

Darlene K. Koczka, Secretary, 5-16-08